REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending. Claims 1, 9, 19, and 24 are in independent form.

In the action mailed December 11, 2007, claims 1-18 and 24-28 were allowed and claims 21 -23 were recognized as reciting allowable subject matter. The recognition of allowable subject matter is appreciatively noted.

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,661,832 to Sindhushayana et al. (hereinafter "Sindhushayana").

Claim 19 relates to a method that includes receiving one or more output symbols from a detector, determining a normalization factor for each of the one or more output symbols, multiplying each of the one or more output symbols by the corresponding normalization factor to obtain a metric correction, and providing the metric correction for each symbol to a channel decoder. Each normalization factor is independent of normalization factors for previous output symbols.

The rejection of claim 19 is based on the contention that Sindhushayana FIG. 2 describes the multiplication of each of the one or more output symbols by a corresponding normalization factor, where each normalization factor is independent of normalization factors for previous output symbols, as recited in claim 19.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. In this regard, Sindhushayana describes a system in which data symbols output from a divider circuit are multiplied by corresponding "maximal ratio path-combining weights." *See, e.g., Sindhushayana*, col. 10, line 17-20. Sindhushayana's "maximal ratio path-combining weights" are understood to be the complex conjugate of the output of a multiplier 94. *See, e.g., Sindhushayana*, col. 10, line 15-17. Multiplier 94 multiplies a channel estimate by the reciprocal of an interference energy $N_{t,1}$ that is associated with a multipath component. *See, e.g., Sindhushayana*, col. 10, line 11-14. The channel estimate is understood to be given by Sindhushayana's Eq. [7], namely,

$$\hat{\alpha} = \sqrt{\hat{E}_{s,l}} \, e^{j\hat{\theta}_l}$$

where $\hat{E}_{s,l}$ is an estimate of the modulation symbol energy of the 1th multipath component and $\hat{\theta}_l$ is an estimate of the phase of the pilot signal. The channel $\hat{\alpha}$ is a scaled estimate of the

complex amplitude of the output of a pilot filter 76. *See, e.g., Sindhushayana*, col. 10, line 1-10.

Neither Sindhushayana's channel estimate, nor the reciprocal of interference energy $N_{t,1}$, is understood to correspond to an output symbol and be independent of the values for previous output symbols. Instead, Sindhushayana's channel estimate and interference energy $N_{t,1}$ are understood to relate to signals, channels, and multipath components. Multiple symbols are understood to be involved in the characterization of these cases. In other words, the characteristics of multiple symbols are understood to be averaged in order to characterize signals, channels, and multipath components.

Since the characterizations of Sindhushayana's signals, channels, and multipath components involve multiple symbols, these characterizations neither correspond to an output symbol nor are independent of the values for previous output symbols. Instead, these characterizations are understood to involve multiple symbols and hence be dependent on the values for previous output symbols.
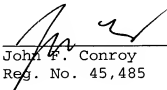
Accordingly, claim 19 is not anticipated by Sindhushayana. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 19 and the claims dependent therefrom be withdrawn.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue, or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue, or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. No fees are believed due at this time. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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John F. Conroy
Reg. No. 45,485

Fish & Richardson P.C.
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, California 92130
(858) 678-5070 telephone
(858) 678-5099 facsimile

JFC/jhg
10812136.doc